

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Emergency Condition Notification Form

Date June 9, 2011 Update

Time: 5:00 PM

Facility Affected: Gibson Reservoir

River(s) Affected: Sun River, Missouri River

Organizations Receiving this Notification:

Lewis and Clark County Dispatch 24-hour Warning Point
Teton County Dispatch 24-hour Warning Point
Cascade County Dispatch 24-hour Warning Point
PPL Montana – Rainbow Dam Dispatch Center
National Weather Service, Great Falls
Montana State Disaster and Emergency Services, Helena
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha
U.S. Forest Service
Greenfields Irrigation District
Bureau of Reclamation – Great Plains Regional Office

Condition Description

Current Conditions – Gibson Dam and Reservoir:

- Elevation = 4717.05 feet
- Inflow (12-hr avg.) = 8,560 cubic-feet per second (cfs)
- Discharge = 8,600 cfs (from Gibson Dam)
- Discharge = 9,140 cfs (over Sun River Diversion Dam)

Precipitation and snowmelt has continued to keep streamflows to the Sun River basin at unusually high levels. In accordance with the Emergency Action Plan for Gibson Dam, releases in excess of 8,000 cfs place Gibson Dam into an elevated response level requiring notifications to downstream and affected agencies. We want to stress that there are no dam safety related conditions or concerns with Gibson Dam. Reclamation's forecast currently projects releases from Gibson Dam to gradually decrease, however, releases from Gibson Dam are anticipated to remain above 8,000 cfs for the next 24 hours.

1. Potential River Levels and Times of Arrival

The following provides the approximate travel times from Gibson Dam to reach key locations along the Sun River:

<u>Sun River Location</u>	<u>Approximate Travel Time</u>
Simms	10 – 13 hours
Vaughn	20-23 hours
Great Falls	27-30 hours

2. Actions Taken by Reclamation

In an attempt to maintain flows downstream on the Missouri River at Great Falls at near channel capacity, releases out of Canyon Ferry Reservoir are being maintained at 11,000 cfs. Reclamation continues to monitor river levels both upstream and downstream of Gibson Reservoir, as well at conditions at Gibson Reservoir and will issue further notifications as conditions warrant.

3. Actions Expected of Downstream Agencies

Downstream agencies should take these flows into account combined with existing downstream tributary flows entering the Sun River and notify landowners who occupy low lying areas that they are subject to potential flooding. Strongly encourage property owners to take appropriate precautions.

4. Phone Number for Additional Information

Sean Keeney
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Montana Area Office
Office: 406-247-7309
Cell: 406-855-8760
dkeeney@usbr.gov

5. Media Inquiries:

Paula Holwegner
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Montana Area Office
Office: 406-247-7300
Cell: 406-670-5158
pholwegner@usbr.gov